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Secretary of State for Transport,
c/o Transports & Works Act Orders Unit,
Department for Transport, Zone 1/18
Great Minster House,
33 Horseferry Road,
London, SW1P 4DR

28th May 2018

Re. 'Rother Valley Railway (Bodiam to Robertsbridge Junction) Order'

Dear Sirs,

I am amazed that anyone should think it possible, that they would be allowed to put a level-crossing across the A21, on the particularly busy & dangerous by-pass to Robertsbridge. This at the same time that presumably a level-crossing, a short distance away in Robertsbridge High Street, would also be closed.

As a child, living in Sedlescombe, I remember traffic building up in Robertsbridge High Street, while we waited for the train to come through and this before the vast increase in traffic in this and other areas. The Line was closed by Beeching as not being financially viable, even though commuters did use it reach the main line to London.

Now every-day traffic has built up considerably. There are frequent accidents on the A21 & from our property on the hill above we often see traffic in a jam as it comes to the roundabout from the south. If there were to be a closed level-crossing, one could easily find a long tail back up the hill, north of the roundabout, which is steep, twisting & dangerous at the best of times. Vast number of motor-bikes use the A21, particularly at holiday times.

Any traffic hoping to avoid the delay by going through the village, would cause more trouble, in a narrow village High Street, which already has its problems. These problems will only get worse as more planned houses are built & subsequently more cars are owned within the village. The village is already busy as people drive to the current car park, supplied for commuters, using the main line. This car park is barely large enough currently & cars are parked on the Brightling Road & surrounding side residential roads.

Robertsbridge, despite various installations, still has a potential to flood, which could become a further problem with an extended rail-line across surrounding fields, by the River Rother. There also would be a detrimental effect on our local environment & wildlife.

The over-riding fear, though is the increased danger to motorists, on an already busy & dangerous major road.

I would urge you to Call This In.
Yours faithfully,

Thank you.

Joan Kathleen Clayton Jones.